March 6, 1979

CBS News
CBS-TV
New York, N.Y.

Dear Producers:

Enjoyed tonight's documentary, "Inside the Union" on CBS Reports. This is the sort of thing television rarely touches — union history, worker attitudes, working conditions and dangers, the little man in the union. You did it well, daringly well. There is not other good way.

CBS News can still do some good ~~ones~~ ones, I guess. Too bad they are so occasional, so often stuffed into the bad viewing times. This one wasn't.

I can't say much for television in general in respect to its doing much to make us think, nor for TV news in general, but programs like this make you see the potential.

Thanks,

Jim Scofield
265 Schoolhouse Rd.
Johnstown, Pa. 15904

MADISON, WIS

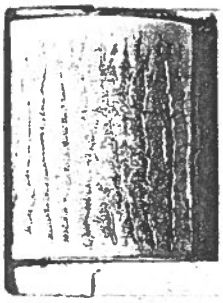
MAR 1979

My Congratulations And A Very Special Thank You To CBS And To The Staff Of CBS Reports For A Excellent Program "Inside The Union."

I was Surprised By The Quotes From Carl Sandberg And From The Working Men Of Union Local 1010 — The People, Yes!

The Local Union Dio Lose To Mr Mc Bride But There Was A Great Amout of Hope And Courage Shown In The One Hour Program On Your Network Once Again Thank You For An Interesting And Informative Hour Of Television At Its Very Best. I Do Hope To See More Programs Of This Quality On Your Network In The Future.

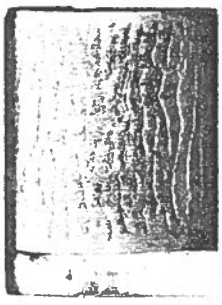
W Merbach
4010 Cherokee Drive
Madison, Wis
53711

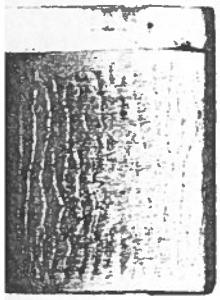


3-6-79

Thank you for the Report on the steel unions. This is television at its best. We hope that it will start thought processes which in due time will benefit consumers as well as union members.

Gratefully yours,
Al Flamm





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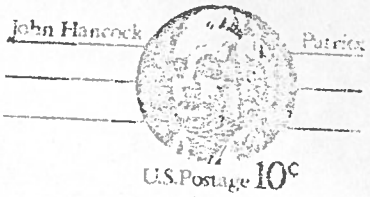

CBS TELEVISION
51 WEST 52nd ST.
NYC NY 10019

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126 Elm Street
Cresskill, N.J.
07626
March 7, 1979

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CBS
Channel 2
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen: Being familiar with your pro-union bias, I did not expect much from your Inside the Union presentation last night. I wasn't disappointed.

Nothing about the steel workers being grossly overpaid. Nary a word about the union's unholy alliance with the steel company managements to (successfully) pressure the government into barring the importation of foreign steel (union made, of course) so that the steel companies can raise their prices and gouge the consumers for the cost-impact of the uneconomic wage and benefits the managements conceded to the union in the current labor agreement.

And the bit about the two steel workers being fatally injured on the job — Isn't that the ploy you use when you plug the PBA? — that the cops are entitled to still more because of the hazards of their job, despite the fact that except for those cops shot while off duty in taverns, only a very small number are killed on the job.

Hearing an overpaid steel worker singing "We shall not be moved!" reminded me of the last time I heard a steel worker sing that rousing spiritual. And that was when unemployed steel

workers, members of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee, sang it during the hunger march in the gallery of the senate in the Capitol at Harrisburg in the summer of 1936, when they and other unionists were demanding that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania appropriate "64 cents a day – no compromise!" to succor the unemployed.

It took courage to wear a union button in those days and I very much doubt that many of those spotlighted on your propaganda piece last night would have qualified.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph P. Burge

3-6-79

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CBC/ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Dear Sirs

Please excuse this hand-wrote letter, but I must have a comment or two about your "Special" Inside the Union.

All of the testimonials are from drunk, bitter old men who are from an era that typify adversarial conflict between the Company and the Union.

Today, please realize these days are gone! There is no need for pointing out harshness, or inhuman working conditions and forced over-time, some of the [redacted] treatment described in your documentary.

The Unions have served their useful purpose in our society. The people are giving money to a high echelon of the Union to buy Boring 500 suits and limosines. Companies now treat people like they want to be treated, like human beings. The Unions in America are weaving their own bureaucratical web —

Although the show provided entertainment, the reality of it seems a bit remote.

Sincerely,
Joe H. Henderson
1001 Amy Way
Bonham, Texas
75418

P.S. I am qualified to comment on this issue, as my background includes 7 years as Industrial Relations Manager for two major Fortune 500 companies.

Ansd gh

March 6, 197

Dear Mr. Herman;

Our family was fascinated by your program on the Steel Union. What a refreshment from the usual pap on TV. Give us more about the real, productive people in the U.S.

Thanks

David Elliot

March 6, 1979

Mr. George Herman
CBS-TV
51 W. 52nd St.
New York, N.Y.

Ansd
gh

Dear George,

I have just watched your telecast INSIDE THE UNION with a great deal of interest.

Now, let me give you another angle on the labor picture that poses a larger problem in this country than anyone realizes.

Five years ago, in May of 1974, I began a messenger service in Burbank, California. At the outset I was strictly a one-man operation and my office was the lobby of the Warner Brothers Publicity Department at the Burbank Studios in Burbank.

I operated alone until early 1975 running errands solely for the publicity department. I was non-union, though I had been a member of Teamster's Union Local 495 while working for another messenger service.

When I began hiring employees in early 1975, I contacted Teamster's Local 399, which had a contract with Warner Brothers and The Burbank Studio covering transportation activities. I was told on the telephone that this local was not interested in our operation because we were so small.

I then contacted the business agent of Local 495, and they were interested and subsequently organized our company. They first assured me that they also had contacted Local 399 and had been given their blessing to organize us. I might also point out that I had to do a selling job on my employees, pointing out the advantages to them and the company of being union affiliated.

In August of 1977, I turned the company over to two of our employees and retired.

When time came in August of 1978 to renew our contract with Local 495, nothing was heard from the union. Our people attempted to contact the powers that be to no avail. They could never reach them and their calls were never answered.

Soon they learned what was going on.

Ansd gh

March 7, 1979

3056 Lynrose Dr.
Anaheim, Ca. 92804
714-774-1010

Mr. George Herman

Columbia Broadcasting System
Television Network
New York, New York

Dear George,

I watched your report last night and thought it was very good.

I was a charter member of Local 1843 in Pittsburgh, I joined in 1937 and later I joined the Carpenters Union in Pittsburgh, and then here in California.

Everything you said in your report is true, but why, in 40 years, haven't we been able to correct the wrongs our Unions do to us? We have no place to turn, when our by-laws are violated by our Union officers, or if they are using money wrongly, or if they are loading the payroll with their friends in order to keep themselves in office.

I belong to a Local where we have in the neighborhood of 2,000 members, but if we get out 300 to vote for President, Financial Secretary, or the Contract, we are lucky. The men are just so disgusted with the Union they don't want anything to do with it. They just pay their dues and go to work. About 30 men run our Local.

I am retired now, but I would like to see some reforms in the Union movement , you don't have the disregard for the worker that there used to be (my uncle got his eye hurt in J & L and was fired the next day, he had to have it removed at his own expense years later), but Unions are a good thing if they are run for the workers, not for the Union bosses.

If you ever need material on how a rotten Union is run, get in touch with me.

Yours truly,

Robert Burns

Robert Burns
3056 Lynrose Drive
Anaheim, Ca. 92804